(b) whether it is also a fact that such a list was prepared in the year 1998 which should have lasted for five years;

(c) if so, what prompted Government to revise the list of medicines before the expiry of five years;

(d) whether this matter has been referred to the C.B.I. for investigation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether it is proposed to do so now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The list of medicines, which is called formulary is prepared for bulk procurement of medicines by the Government. It may have a particular period of validity. It is not correct that such lists are prepared after every five years.

(b) The list prepared in 1998 had got the validity of only two years, though it was extended later because of the non-finalisation of the new formulary.

(c) The question does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The question does not arise.

Family Welfare Linked Health Insurance Plan

2694. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to introduce a FamilyWelfare Linked Health Insurance plan for persons below the poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the new plan is likely to be put in place;

(d) whether it is proposed to extend the scheme to other sections of the population including senior citizens; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) The National Population Policy, 2000 stipulates that a Family Welfare Linked Health Insurance Plan would be established as a motivational measures for wider adoption of the small family norm. As of now, the scheme is proposed only for couples below the poverty line and who undergo sterilization, with not more than 2 children.

The Institute of Health Systems, Hyderabad, has been requested to design and develop a Family Welfare Linked Health Insurance Scheme.

Inclusion of Hepatitis A, B and C and Chicken Pox vaccines in the UIP

2695. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to include Hepatitis A, B and C and Chicken Pox vaccines in the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP);

(b) if so, by when and the annual financial outlay thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The Government have initiated a pilot project, with estimated cost of Rs. 27.19 crores, for introducing Hepatitis B vaccine in the Universal Immunisation Programme. Since this is a pilot activity, the programme will initially be limited to slums of 15 cities during 2002-2003 and in 32 districts in 2003-2004. The names of the cities and districts are annexed as Statement (*See* below). Expansion of the Hepatitis B vaccination programme to additional areas will be considered subsequently. There is no proposal to introduce Hepatitis A & C and Chiken Pox vaccines in the Universal Immunisation Programme.